

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 090540Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7466

CINCPAC

S E C R E T JAKARTA 4203

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ID

SUBJECT: VISIT OF GENERAL GEORGE BROWN

1. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS VISIT APRIL 5-7 OF  
CHAIRMAN JOINT CHIEFS GENERAL GEORGE BROWN.

2. WE SEE FACT THAT INDONESIANS WENT THROUGH WITH INVITATION TO GENERAL BROWN AND GAVE MAJOR PROMINENCE TO HIS VISIT AS INDICATION OF CONTINUING DESIRE INDONESIA MILITARY FOR CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH UNITED STATES. DURING CRITICAL TIME IN INDOCHINA, AS POSSIBILITY TOTAL COMMUNIST TAKEOVER SEEMS TO GROW, VISIT MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO SIGNAL FACT THAT INDONESIA STILL HAS IMPORTANT FRIENDS WHILE REMINDING US THAT INDONESIA REMAINS STABLE AND WORTHY OF USG CONSIDERATION. FINALLY, MILITARY MAY HAVE DESIRED CREATE OCCASION TO STRESS IMPORTANCE OF U.S. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHERS IN INDONESIA LESS FRIENDLY TO US.

3. INDONESIANS APPEARED TO APPRECIATE FRANK THOUGH DISMAL ASSESSMENT BY GENERAL BROWN OF SITUATION IN INDOCHINA. POSITIVE REACTION PROBABLY HELPED BY FEELING AMONG INDONESIANS THAT HIS ASSESSMENT CLOSER TO THEIR OWN. WHILE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT BLEAK PICTURE PAINTED BY GENERAL BROWN COULD LESSEN INDONESIAN ENTHUSIASM FOR STAYING IN ICCS, WE DO NOT HAVE IMPRESSION THAT THIS

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ALTERED APPARENT DECISION TO REMAIN AT LEAST UNTIL IT

POSSIBLE JUDGE CHANCES FOR GVN DEFENDING REST OF COUNTRY.  
INDONESIANS DID NOT THEMSELVES RAISE QUESTION OF ICCS  
DURING FORMAL MEETINGS.

4. HANKAM BRIEFING OF GENERAL BROWN WAS MATTER OF FACT  
PRESENTATION OF CONTRAST BETWEEN PLANNING FIGURES FOR  
U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND ACTUAL AMOUNT RECEIVED.  
GENERAL BROWN POINTED OUT THIS WAS COMMON PHENOMENON IN  
OUR OWN GOVERNMENT. OTHER THAN THIS REFERENCE AND GENERAL  
PANGGABEAN'S COMMENT ON SHIPS, THERE WAS NO SPECIAL PLEA  
FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PERHAPS DUE TO FEELING THAT  
RECENT EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN GENERAL PANGGABEAN  
AND SECDEF WAS AT THIS TIME SUFFICIENT. WE SUBSEQUENTLY  
LEARNED FROM GENERAL MURDANI THAT PRESIDENT HAS INSTRUCTED  
HANKAM THAT THERE WOULD BE NO "BEGGING" FOR AMERICAN  
AID. IMPORTANCE INDONESIA ATTACHES TO CONTINUING U.S.  
ASSISTANCE, HOWEVER, WAS CLEAR BY IMPLICATION.

5. VISIT WAS VALUABLE TO EMBASSY AS OCCASION OF SPECIAL  
OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AND IMPROVE RELATIONSHIP WITH TOP  
INDONESIAN MILITARY LEADERS. NOT ONLY GENERAL PANGGABEAN  
BUT CHIEFS OF ALL MILITARY SERVICES ATTENDED INDONESIAN  
DINNER FOR GENERAL BROWN AND ALL BUT POLICE CHIEF WHO  
WAS UNAVAILABLE CAME TO EMBASSY RESIDENCE ON RETURN DINNER.  
THROUGHOUT DISCUSSIONS INDONESIANS SHOWED UNDERSTANDING  
OF U.S. PROBLEMS. GENERAL PANGGABEAN TOLD GUEST AT  
DINNER THAT HE COULD WELL UNDERSTAND U.S. DESIRE TO PULL  
OUT OF INDOCHINA AFTER HEAVY SACRIFICES ALREADY MADE.  
IN TOAST AT FINAL DINNER PANGGABEAN STRESSED IMPORTANCE  
OF AMERICAN PRESENCE AND INDICATED UNDERSTANDING OF  
AMERICAN ASSISTANCE WHICH REQUIRED CONGRESSIONAL AS WELL  
AS EXECUTIVE SUPPORT.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975JAKART04203  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750123-0072  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750468/aaaackgk.tel  
**Line Count:** 94  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF GENERAL GEORGE BROWN  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, MASS, ID, US, (BROWN, GEORGE), (PANGGABEAN)  
**To:** STATE CINCPAC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006